ACCOUNT OF FULTON MARKET. Where do all the Fish Come From? die., die., die.

This is the second great depot from which the metropolis is supplied with provisions, and in point of importance it is next to Washington market. Its ss, however, though chiefly wholesale, is also d a different character. Washington market deals more extensively in country produce, while the prin-cipal trade of Fulton market is in fish, and all varieos of meat. The latter does not, in fact, present the same inducements to farmers to send their produce to it; the space is limited, and the accommoda tions very poor. About three or four years ago the supply of vegetables was, we are informed, more dant; but within the last year or two, the counwagons from Long Island have left it for Washingmarket, where they have found a more extensive costom and better sale. Fulton market, on account of its situation, never can have a large trade in vege tables, and will always remain inferior, in its general business, to Washington market. There is no room for expansion, and its limits must, therefore, remain always the same, unless some future Common Council should order the dock in front to be filled in. It is not probable, however, that this will ever be done, no matter how requisite it may appear, as the East river is too narrow at this point to admit of any contrac tion. Still, there is a very extensive area under the market, and sufficient accommodation for about two hundred stands and stalls. The market building itself is bounded by Front, Beekman, Fulton and South streets, and forms a square, each side of which is about two hundred feet in length. Between South street and the river, there are about fifteen stands. or, more properly speaking, sheds, for the sale of fish and fruit mainly. Under these the most extensive wholesale business in fish is transacted, and the dealers supply not only the various markets in New York but in Williamsburg and Brooklyn.

The value of the whole property is estimated at \$210,000, which is \$170,000 less than Washington market. There is, however, a great disparity in the proportion of their rents to the amount of the property, for while the latter yields a revenue of over \$33,000 to the city treasury every year, the former pays about \$18,000. This material difference, however, is accounted for by the fact that there are more than twice the number of stands in Washington market; and also that a considerable part of the revenue derived from it is received for the rent of stands and sheds erected on the ground between West street and the river, which we believe is not included in the Comptroller's estimate of the market

property.

The amount received from Fulton market for rent has very largely increased within the last few years. Of the \$18,520 78 received in 1851, \$10,227 52 was paid for the rent of cellars, of which this market has more than any other in the city. The rent for butchers' stands, during the same year, amounted to 13,240 42; the remainder being paid for vegetable, Ssh, poultry, and other stands. The highest rent paid for the best stand in the market does not exceed three dollars a week, while the poorest stand rents for three shillings. Several stands are occupied by the retail dealers in fancy wares, apple women, and coffee and pie men. The coffee stands, as a general thing, are quite an ornament to the market, and are regarded as a great convenience to the dealers and thers doing business thre, who are unable to leave the market to obtain their meals elsewhere. They are, therefore, pretty well patronized.

Pulton market was established about thirty years ago, on its present site. Soon after its erection the whole number of stalls, amounting to eighty-six, were put up at auction, and disposed of for \$19,015, which is an average of \$216 for each stand. The lowest price for which a stand can be purchased now is \$150, and some of the dealers would not dispose of their title for five or six thousand dollars. The aggregate value of all the stands may be estimated at \$100,000, which is rather under than over their real worth to the dealers. The price paid for the stands thirty years since, is about equal to the rent receipts at present. But it appears that the business of the market was so limited at that period that there were more stands than could be profitably occupied, and many of the victuallers were unable to pay their mats. This led to a reduction of the number: twenseven of the butchers' stalls in the southeast wing ing allotted to fishermen, and the residue were relet at a diminished price.

very good repair, is one story high, with a basement -the roof being supported on a large number of stone pillars. The butchers' stalls occupy three sides of the building, the centre being occupied by commission dealers in fowls, and all kinds of meat besides a large number who sell vegetables, butter, cheese, &c. All the oyster stands are situated or the side of the market nearest to Fulton street, and they occupy a considerable space. Immediately in front of each is a separate stand, in which soveral persons are constantly employed in opening oysters. The principal stands display a great deal of taste in their construction, and are the most attractive in the whole market. They are all made of wood, and intended as an imitation of the Gothic style, and are certainly superior to those in Washington market, and we may add, to any other market in the city. Each has a kind of restaurant attached, in which oysters dressed to suit all tastes are served up during all hours of the day. Considerable quantities of oysters are disposed of in this manner, for they are an article of food that market dealers are very

We have said that the market is in bad repair but still it is superior to many others in the city. There are three brick buildings attached to it, each which is occupied as a boarding-house, while the cellars or basements are occupied as retail provision and liquor stores, restaurants, &c. The business done in these is very large, and the rent paid for them forms more than one-half the revenue from the whole market. Independent of the rent received from those who hold stands, stalls, and sheds, a small amount is collected by the clerk of the market, Mr. Isaacs, from pedlars of various kinds, each o whom is required by the ordinance to pay one shill ling per week for the privilege of disposing of his wares inside the limits of the market. He also collocts a market fee of six cents per day for every stand occupied by a countryman seiling the produce of his own farm; and fifty cents from each person employed as an agent by such countryman.

The quarters assigned to the dealers in country produce, are situated in the lower part of the market ar South street. Every morning during the fruit and vegetable season, it is so crowded as to render it almost impossible to pass, while the thoroughfare is absolutely blockaded with wagons loaded with produce. By eight or nine o'clock the market is gene mily clear, and by one or two the business of the day is at an end.

After this general outline of the principal feature of interest in the market, we present our readers with the following details of its business, commencing with the mest trade, as the most important :-

## THE MEAT TRADE.

There are sixty-five butchers' stalls in Fulton market, exclusive of those belonging to the commission dealers. Some of these butchers kill as many as fifty or sixty head of cattle in one week, but the average number sold by each is about fifteen. The high est daily receipts of any one amount to about five hundred dollars, and the lowest to seventy or eighty; but the average sales of each do not exceed one bundred and fifty. The proportion of beef to all ther kinds of meat retailed in the market, is as about three to one. The aggregate yearly sales of thos butchers are estimated at about three millions of dol lars. Their business is chiefly with hotels and the steamboats and shipping along the East river They also have customers on the North river, among whom may be mentioned Vanderbilt, whose line of

steamers is supplied by them. The number of heads of cattle slaughtered in one year for the butchers in Fulton market, is computed at sixteen thousand, in-dependent of the "small meat," which is the general title for mutton, veal, lamb, and pork. The business of the regular butchers is said to be more extensive than that of the same class in Washington market. A butcher informed us that he expended, during one year, \$150,000 for the purchase of cattle, and that he paid, besides, about sixty dollars a day, the whole year round, for meat which he was obliged to buy from other dealers. A considerable portion of this meat is, however, salted and pickled, in barrels, and some of it is sent direct from the slaughterhouse to their customers. As a general thing, the butcher doing business in the market are opposed to the granting of licenses to isolated stalls throughout the city. Some of them believe that the establishment of a few more markets would be more desirable, and better suited to the wants of the people. A great deal of diseased and unhealthy meat, it is said, is sold at these stalls, which could not be exposed for sale in the open market without deection and instant exposure. However this may be, we are not prepared to decide; but there is one thing we are not prepared to decide; but there is one thing certain—that every honest butcher who is cognizant of such practices, should, out of respect for the credit of his business, and in justice to the public, inform the proper authorities of them. About a year and a half ago, a butcher was expelled from Fulton market, by those engaged in the same business, for exposing diseased meat for sale; and although he has made several applications to be permitted to return, he has never been allowed to rent a stall in the market since. Such a course, if uniformly pursued in every case of the kind, is calculated to secure the public confidence in any market in which it is adopted.

In addition to the regular butchers, there are about fifteen commission dealers in the centre of the market, who also sell meat of various kinds. Their sales are very limited, however, and do not exceed two hundred thousand dollars in the year. They are not, however, it should be understood, restricted to the sale of meat, but do an extensive business in fow's. Their meat is sold at a commission of five per cent, and they are not allowed by the market rules to sell it by retail.

THE FISH TRADE. Fulton market is, par excellence, the greatest fish depot in New York, and for this it is peculiarly adapted by its location. It is estimated that th number of fishing vessels constantly employed by the dealers exceeds one hundred and fifty, varying in capacity from twenty to one handred and twenty tons The average cost of each of these "fishing smacks," as they are termed, is about four thousand dollars, including fishing tackle, &c., and the number of men employed upon them is about a thousand. The New York fishermen are a remarkably hardy and healthy class, and are capable of enduring an almost incredible amount of fatigue and labor. Their occupation, at particular seasons, is very laborious; they are exposed to all kinds of weather, and to this principally is owing their hardiness and strength They are also very frugal and provident, and the majority of them are part owners of the boats on which they are employed. Their pursuit is much more lucrative than might be supposed, and in a few years some have been known to accumulate, if not large fortunes, at least sufficient to render them comfortable for life. As a general thing, the fishermen are not employed on regular wages, like sailors, but work on shares, receiving at the end of each trip an equal apportionment of the whole proceeds. As this is a subject of peculiar interest, we may be pardoned for making a digression here for the purpose of entering into a brief explanation of the manner in which this business is conducted. The fishing smacks are owned generally by companies of three or four, and sometimes more, who are entitled to about two-fifths the amount of all the fish caught on each trip, the remaining three-fifths being distributed among the captain, mate, and the rest of the hands. The only one on board who receives a regular salary is the cook, whose particular duties prevent him from engaging in the business of catching fish. As we have already said, the fishermen are frequently part owners of the boats, and they are therefore entitled to a separate share on that ac count. Their profits, therefore, on a successful trip, are very large, exceeding sometimes forty and even fifty dollars in one week. It not unfrequently happens, however, that a company of fishermen engage or charter a vessel on speculation, and divide the proceeds equally among themselves, after deducting the amount paid for the hire to the owner. In some cases, however, the hands are engaged for regular wages. Working on shares is generally regarded as the best method that could be adopted. for it gives the men a direct interest in the success of the vessel, and renders them more expert in their occupation. In fact, it was the remarkable expertoccupation. In fact, it was the remarkable expericess of the American fishermen in the British
waters, and their general superiority to the British,
that gave rise to the late fishery difficulty with
Great Britain. The fishermen of the colonies, who
worked for wages, could not compete with men who
were their own masters, and who had a direct interest in their work. They were not so independent;
they had not the same motive for exertion; and, as a
natural consequence, they were mable to cope, even
in their own waters, and under the protection of
their own slag, with our fishermen. They therefore
desired the interposition of their government in
their behalf, for they knew well that they could not
contend with any chance of success against such
formidable competitors.

The New York fishing boats are remarkable for
their strength, their neatness, and their peculiar
adaptation to the occupation in which they are
employed. Their tackle is of the best description,
"hob and line, hook and sinker," and each boat has
what is termed a "fish well," in which fish are preserved alive for the market. This is a particularly
interesting feature in these vessels, and it is one of

what is termed a "hish weil, in which hish are preserved alive for the market. This is a porticularly interesting feature in these vessels, and it is one of the most important parts. The lish well is generally placed in the centre of the boat, and at the top is about three feet in length by two in width. At dist sight it looks like a diminutive hatchway, but on a closer inspection it is found to be full of water, which is let in through holes in the bottom of the vessel. To the uninitiated this may appear incredible, as it is generally thought that a vessel with holes must inevitably sink. Such is not the case, however, with the fishing boats, for the fish wells are so constructed that the height of the water in them is always regulated by the draught of the boat. When the fish are caught they are immediately thrown into the well, and kept there until they are transferred to the fish cars. There are about two hundred fish cars in the dock at the foot of Fulton street, all which are convenient to the fish stands. They are of different dimensions, and are each capable of containing about seven thousand pounds of fish. The average cost is about twenty dollars, and their total value may be estimated at about four thousand. total value may be estimated at about four thousand. A good, substantial car will last for three years, but during that time it may require frequent repairs. The kinds of fish kept in these are chiefly helibut, codish blackfish and as here.

repairs. The kinds of fish kept in these are chiefly halibut, codish, blackiish, and sea bass.

In addition to the "smacks," there are a large number of small boats employed on the fishing grounds near Shrewsbury, and for a considerable space along the Jersey coast. These send large quantities to the commission dealers in Fulton market, by the steamboats plying between this city and the different scaports of that State. The number of open boats engaged in these fisheries is estimated at one bundred and lifty, and the number of fishermen between three and four hundred. They generally commence operations about the latter part of May, and continue till some time in October, when the season terminates.

generally commence operations about the latter part of May, and continue till some time in October, when the season terminates.

The business in the fish market commences about four o'clock, and is generally over at seven; but during these three hours nothing can exceed the despatch with which it is performed. All hands are actively engaged in furnishing the customers. The street immediately in front of the stands is crowded with wagons waiting to receive their supply, and the whole market is one scene of bustle and apparent confusion. Everything is conducted, however, in order, and each person has his own work to perform. A certain number of men are stationed on the cars with large nets, attached to long poles, with which they catch the fish, and give them alive to their customers. In this manner the whole of New York is supplied with ish every morning, by the dealers in this market. The fish dealers of Washington, Catharine, and all the other markets throughout the city, obtain their principal supply here. On Fridays the consumption of fish is greater than on any other day of the week. This is attributable to the fact that Catholies do not eat ment on that day, and are compelled to use lish as a substitute. When there is a great abundance in market, the sales of each stand will average ten thousand pounds; and as there are tweive stands in the market, the whole amount sold on Friday morning is about one hundred and twenty thousand pounds. Calculating this at five cents per pound, the total value of the fish thus disposed of at wholesale may be estimated at six thousand dollars. It would be a great mistake, however, to regard this as a fair indication of the extent of their business; for, during some weeks in the year, their sales will not average one-fifth that amount. When the scason is particularly doll, some

stands will not realize sufficient to pay heir hands; but their profits through the rest of the year amply remonerate them for any loss sustained.

The number of stands engaged in the wholesale fish trade is twelve, and these are owned generally by companies of two or three persons, who have also shares in the fishing boats. The average daily receipts of each of these, the whole year round, may be safely estimated at three hundred dollars. This presents the immense total of \$1,126,800 as the aggregate yearly amount of sales. Of course, in this calculation, we leave out Sunday, as there is no business done on that day. Besides the wholesale dealers, there are ten who are engaged in the retail trade; but as these are supplied by the former, their sales are included in the foregoing estimate. The wholesale dealers are allowed a commission of ten per cent on their sales, independent of what they are entitled to for their share in the vessel. The rules and regulations among these dealers are very strict, and indeed it is necessary that they should be so, to avoid the disorder which would inevitably happen. Each vessel, as it arrives, is allowed the privilege of discharging her freight first, no matter how great may be the press of business. Of the twelve wholesale stands, several engage exclusively in the sale of codish, haibut and blackfish, while others again deal chiefly in eels, porgies, founders, &c.

SHAD.

During the shad season, there is only one stand

others again deal chiefly in eels, porgies, flounders, &c.

SHAD.

During the shad season, there is only one stand in the wholesale market that sells that fish exclusively. The season begins about the middle of March, and lasts about seven weeks, during which time the sales average one thousand dollars a day. The shad are sold outside of the docks from the boats, and immense numbers of them are hawked around the city in wagons, and disposed of at a large profit by the retailers. In the commencement of the season they are sold as high as one dollar a piece; but when there is a great abundance in market they can be parchased for a shilling each. The commission on shad is one cent on each fish, and this is never varied, no matter what the price at which they are sold.

Shad fishing is altogether different from cod and halibut fishing, and is pursued by a different class of men. The beats employed in it are open, and the fish are, as is well known, caught with nets. The principal supply of this fish is taken in the North river, and in the bay, within a space extending from the lower part of Staten Island to Albany. A large proportion of what is caught is taken direct to Washington market, and disposed of there. The business in shad is conducted in a somewhat different manner from the trade in other fish. The commission, as we have stated, is not regulated by the value of the fish, but by the number sold; and the commission dealers, as a general thing, have no shares or direct interest in the boats engaged in the fishery.

in the fishery.

MACKEEL.

These fish are caught off Sandy Hook, and are brought to market alive. They will not live longer than fifteen or twenty minutes out of the water, and when dead they do not "keep" so long as other fish. The manner in which mackerel fishing is pursued is singular and interesting. When the boat arrives near the fishing ground the hands commence throwing large quantities of bait overboard in her wake. After disposing of a sufficient amount in this way, they come to anchor and commence fishing. As the mackerel is a voracious fish, swarms of them are attracted about the vessel by the scattered bait, and the fishermen capture them with very little difficulty. When taken they are immediately thrown into the fish wells.

When taken they are immediately thrown into the fish wells.

The mackerel season begins in May, and continues throughout the whole of that month. They commence their migrations eastward after they leave the waters of New York, towards the Bay of Fundy; but a very few of our fishermen pursue them up to that point. They arrive in the Bay of Fundy about September, and when caught there they are salted and packed in barrels, according to their size and quality. The vessels fishing in those waters are larger than those engaged in our coast fisheries

those engaged in our coast fisheries

CODFISH.

The amount of codfish sold yearly in Fulton market, by the wholesale and retail dealers, exceeds that of any other fish, and forms about one-fourth of the total sales. All the commission dealers sell it, and there is not a retail stand in the market at which it cannot be purchased, except when there is an unusual scarcity. The great codfisheries are on the banks of Newfoundland, and along the coast of British North America; but large quantities are taken during the summer in the waters about Nantucket, and in the winter they are also caught in great abundance off the coast of New York and New Jersey. Those taken in our own waters are generally brought to market alive, while the fish caught on the "Banks" are salted and packed in barrels. are salted and packed in barrels.

BASS.

There are two varieties of this fish—the sea bass and the striped bass. The principal supply is obtained from Long Island, and a large quantity is also brought from Rhode Island. The total sales of both kinds of bass during the year do not exceed eighty thousand dollars.

kinds of bass during the year do not exceed eighty thousand dollars.

SALMON.

In our article on Washington market, we gave the leading particulars of the business in this fish, and it is therefore only necessary to state a few facts in relation to the trade in this market. Nearly all the dealers sell salmon, and the aggregate sales during the year amount to about \$10,000. A great proportion of the salmon sold in Fulton market is bought from the people of St. John, N. B., a considerable number of whom are dependent upon the fisheries for a subsistence. Our dealers are obliged by the colonial government to pay an ad valorem duty of twenty per cent, but for which our markets might be more plentifully supplied with this favorite fish, and at much cheaper prices.

HALIBUT.

During the summer large quantities of this fish are taken on the St. George's banks, which lie about one hundred miles to the eastward

fish are taken on the St. George's banks, which lie about one hundred miles to the eastward of Boston. Halibut are caught in about forty fathoms water, and the tackle with which they are taken must be of the best description. They grow to an immense size, and some have been known to weigh near 400 pounds. They are brought to market alive, and are considered by fishermen generally as a very profitable fish. In the months of September. October, and November, they are taken on the coast of Nova Sectia, about Sable Island. The yearly sales of halibut in this market alone exceeds \$100,000. The season begins about the first of April, and ends about the last of October; but a considerable supply is received during the two succeeding months. When there is a great abundance in the market, the daily sales average \$1,000; but there are some weeks, when the weather is unfavorable, that the sales are not sufficient to defray the expenses of the dealers.

that the sales are not sufficient to defray the expenses of the dealers.

LOBSTERS.

The extensive sales of this fish entitle it to particular notice. It is sold by nearly all the dealers in the market, and, with the exception of the months of December, January, and February, there is always an abundant supply in the market during the whole year. In those months, however, there is a very limited quantity, and that is obtained from Boston, in boxes. The season for lobsters commences about the lst of March and ends in the beginning of December. During this period the average daily sales are estimated at ten thousand pounds, which, at four cents a pound, gives a total of \$96,000 as the receipts for nine months. If to this we add \$4,000, a low estimate of the amount of sales for the other three months, we have the large sum of one hundred thousand dollars. It must, however, be borne in mind in this calculation, that more than nine-tenths of all the lobsters received in this market are sold by the wholesale to dealers in other markets, and this stands throughout the city. In fact, nearly all the lobsters consumed in New York have to pass through the hands of the dealers in Fulton market.

Lobsters are canght off the coast of Maine, by citizens of that State, who make a business of it. They are taken by means of a contrivance something similar to some rat traps we have seen. The trap or "lobster pot," as it is called, is constructed of wire, and is provided with an entrance barely large enough to admit a good sized lobster. It is easy for the "critter" to get admittance, but once in, all the ingenuity of which it is capable could never release it. Inside the door of the pot is a spacious apartment containing the bait by which they are lured, but when they attempt to return, the wires, which are all pointed on the inside, lock them in as securely as any unfortunate prisoner condemned to a dungeon in the lobster fidureise and these dispose of

Bastile.

There are, we were told, about a thousand persons engaged in the lobster fisheries, and these dispose of them to our New York fishermen, who transfer them to the commission dealers. During a part of the year, from about the 1st of July till October, a considerable supply is obtained from the lobster fisheries. derable supply is obtained from the lobster fisheries at Cape Cod.

derable supply is obtained from the lobster isheries at Cape Cod.

BLACKFISH.

This fish is sold by all the desiers in the market; but the average daily sales of each do not exceed fifteen dollars during the season, which begins in May and ends in December. For the remainder of the year there is generally a supply in market, but it is very limited. Blackfish, although considered by seme as very excellent eating, is not a general favorite, and during the last three or four years there has been a considerable diminution in the sales. This may be attributed to the appearance of the fish, which many might consider repulsive; but whatever effect this may be supposed to have, it is certain that the diminution is not owing to the scarcity of the fish itself. The sales in this case are, as in many others, graduated by the taste of the public.

WEAK FISH, PORGIES, EELS, AND FLOUNDERS.

others, graduated by the taste of the public.

WEAK FIRM, PORGIES, EELS, AND FLOUNDERS.
There are only two wholesale companies which deal in these fish to any extent, and they, we were told, receive about four tons daily. The principal fishing grounds are along the southern shore of Long Island, and the fish are transported over the railroad to Brooklyn, from whence they are sent by boats to this market. But besides the supply received daily by the dealers, there are about twenty-five boats from which they are sold in the docks to the retail dealers. These boats dispose of about six dollars worth a day each, consisting of blue fish, flounders, weak fish, small bass, and crabs, a considerable proportion of which are caught in the East river, near Hellgate.

Overrase and other kinds of shell fish, of which about two hundred thousand dollars worth are sold annually. Of this amount, about one sixth is expended for clams, scollops and muscles. The trade in oysters is chiefly retail, and not more than one-tenth are sold in the shell. Some shipments are made to Liverpool during the winter season, by the Collins and Cunard steamers; but the quantity disposed of in this way is very limited, not exceeding eight barrels a month. There is only one company which exports oysters, and they sent more than twenty thousand dollars worth last year, to California. The same company pickled in one week fifteen thousand. As the oysters are not sold in the shell, a large number of persons are employed in opening them. This is a business by itself, and the persons engaged in it are paid at the rate of about fifty cents a thousand. Some who are well practiced in the art, can open three thousand no ne day, but two thousand five hundred is considered a good day's work. Nearly all the oysters sold in this market are obtained at Oliver slip, near Catharine market, which is the principal rendezvous of the oyster boats. No adequate conception can, however, be formed of the extent of the oyster trade in this city from the business done in the markets, for immense quantities are bought from the boats, without ever passing through the hards of the dealers. As it is a subject of considerable importance, and one in which every person who cats oysters is interested, it is impossible to do justice to it in a brief paragraph. In our next article on markets we will therefore give a detailed account of the trade, the manner in which it is conducted, and such other matters connected with it as may be of interest to the public.

The sale of chams amounts to about twenty thousand dollars annually. About fifteen years ago the trade was more extensive, and on some Sunday mornings as much as one hundred dollars worth would be sold. They are sold by nearly all the dealers; but as there has been a considerable f

not exceed four hundred dollars during the whole year.

FRESH WATER FISH.

But a very limited amount of fresh water fish is sold in Fulton market in comparison with the other kinds. The principal varieties are perch, salmon and brook trout, pickerel, suckers, and catfish. They are to be bought of nearly all the dealers during the preper seasen; but the trade in them is very unsteady, and the aggregate yearly sales do not amount to more than fifty thousand dollars at the utmost. The brook trout, which is a great favorite with epicures, is obtained chiefly from Long Island, and the salmon trout is caught principally in the lakes. The catfish is taken in the ponds in various parts of this State, but a very limited supply is brought to any of the New York markets. There is, perhap, a greater demand for pickerel than for any other fresh water fish, and there is generally a more liberal supply, with the exception of perch, of which there is a large number sold.

THE FRUIT TRADE.

There are three kinds of fruit dealers in this mar ket-the dealers in foreign fruit, consisting of or anges, lemons, pine apples, bananas, &c., and whole ale and retail dealers in all the varieties of home fruit, such as apples, peaches, strawberries, pears, &c. The whole number of dealers is about thirty, of whom eight sell wholesale either for themselves or on commission, four sell foreign fruit, and the remainder are engaged in the retail trade. The retail dealers are, however, employed in the fruit business only during two or three months, and their number varies from year to year. It is with them a temporary business, and is abandoned at the end of the season, for poultry and vegetables. In fact, nearly all who deal in poultry and vegetables, and particularly those who occupy stands in the country markets, sell nearly all kinds of fruit when in season. The aggregate sales of these dealers amount to about four hundred thousand dollars a year. Of the dealers in foreign fruit there are four, two of whom are engaged almost exclusively in the wholesale business, while the sales of the other two are principally retail. The total amount of the daily sales of the four is estimated at three hundred dollars, but two of these sell about one hundred dollars worth each per day. We should also state that two of them deal in peaches. Altogether, their total yearly receipts may be computed at about one hundred thousand dollars.

The most extensive business in the fruit trade is done by the wholesale dealers, of whom there are whom eight sell wholesale either for themselves or

ceipts may be computed at about one hundred thousand dollars.

The most extensive business in the fruit trade is done by the wholesale dealers, of whom there are eight. One of these gave us a statement of his sales of peaches for three weeks, from which it appears that during that time his receipts for that fruit alone averaged eight hundred dollars a day. The same dealer sold about ten thousand dollars worth of strawberries, which was about one-third of the whole amount sold in the market. Throughout the year their sales of apples were in proportion to the amount of other fruit, being about fifty thousand barrels, or one hundred thousand dollars worth. A considerable supply of apples is shipped by the wholesale dealers for Philadelphia, Baltimore, and a few other Southern ports; but the principal business is confined to New York, Williamsburg, and Brooklyn. The total receipts of the wholesale dealers in fruit, during one year, is estimated at six hundred thousand dollars; but this is liable to be diminished or increased, by a favorable or unfavorable season.

THE BUTTER TRADE.

The wholesale and retail butter business is transdo not exceed two thousand pounds. About one half of this amount is sold by retail to hotels, res taurants, boarding houses, and private families. The average cost per pound, of all kinds, may be fairly estimated at twenty cents, which makes the value of the whole quantity disposed of daily four hundred dollars. Of the seven dealers there are two or three who have a most extensive custom, and each of whom sells from six to seven hundred pounds daily—the smallest amount sold by any one dealer being about eights. about eighty.

THE POULTRY TRADE.

There are a large number of persons in this marke who deal in poultry during the winter and spring when the supply is most abundant. They are variously estimated from twenty to thirty, but, like the dealers in Washington market, they do not confine themselves to the sale of poultry, and are ready, when occasion offers, to engage in any market business which pays better. During the summer and fall they are generally engaged in the fruit trade, which is regarded as very profitable. There are not more than six or seven regular dealers, of whom four sell venison and different kinds of game. We were informed by the owner of one stand that of venison alone he sold about five thousand dollars worth in one season, and his daily receipts for game amounts to one hundred dollars. His business is principally wholesale, and he numbers among his customers the Astor and Irving Houses, the Metropolitan and other hotels, and several steamboats. His aggregate yearly sales exceed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which is about one-third the receipts of the whole business of the other dealers. The total sales the whole year round is estimated at about six hundred thousand dollars. The supply of venison is about equal to that received in Washington market, and hear is occasionally added to the stock of game, though the arrival of such game is of very rare occurrence. Moose deer saddles, though not very abundant, can also be purchased in this market. fine themselves to the sale of poultry, and are ready

THE EGG TRADE.

There are ten regular dealers in this trade, whose aggregate daily sales amount to seventy barrels, the value of which is about one thousand dollars. Abou our-fifths of this amount are sold by wholesale, and large proportion of the total supply is received a large proportion of the total supply is received either from Washington market or from the produce boats in its immediate vicinity. Besides the regular dealers there is about an equal number of others who are engaged in the egg trade during a part of the year. Large shipments of eggs are also made from this market for various parts of the country, and an extensive business is transacted with stores, steamboats, hotels, &c.

BACON, HAM, ETC.

There are only two stands in the market which transact an extensive business in bacon, hams smoked tongues, and other kinds of preserved meats, and their sales are estimated at \$250 a day each. Of this amount about nine-tenths are sold wholesale to grocers and other retail dealers, and a large number of vessels are supplied by those dealers. The stands are situated near the main entrance on Front street, and they are among the oldest established in the market.

THE VEGETABLE TRADE.

Including potatoes, there are more vegetables sold in Washington market than in any other in the city and indeed we may safely say than in all the mar-kets. The vegetable trade is the principal feature there, as the market has peculiar advantages from there, as the market has peculiar advantages from its position and extensive accommodations. In Fulton market, there are not more than twenty dealers, the majority of whom are engaged in the retail trade. The average daily number of wagons which dispose of their produce here is computed at forty, but sense days as many as a hundred and fifty arrive from the country. Some of these wagons contain about fifty dollars worth of vegetables, but the average cost of each load does not exceed twenty-five dollars. We do not over estimate the amount of yearly sales of green vegetables alone, when we put them down at \$300,000. Of potatoes of all kinds, the sales may be estimated at \$200,000.

RECAPITULATION. Amount of sales by regular butters.

All kinds of meat sold on commission.

Bacon, ham, smoked beef, &c.

Vegetable trade, wholesale and retail.

Trade in all descriptions of salt water fish.

Fresh water fish.

Oysters, clams, &c.

Poultry trade, comprising the sales of domestic poultry and all kinds of game.

Wholesale and retail egg trade.

Butter trade. 200,000 156,000 500,000 1,126,800 50,000 220,400 Buiter trade.

Wholesale and retail trade in foreign fruit...

Retail trade in home fruit...

Wholesale trade in do...

MEETING FOR CITY REFORM. Are Our Taxes to Increase

> WHAT ARE WE TO DO ? &c., &c., &c.

Another city reform meeting was held at the Stuy

vesant Institute on Thursday evening last, over which Peter Cooper, Esq. of the Eighteenth ward presided A committee appointed at a former meeting to propose measures of reform, made their report, as fol-

That they have carefully examined the whole system of government now provided by law for the city, and have inquired into its actual administration, with a view of learning what the mischiefs were which required a remedy, and whether such remedy demanded further legal exactments for its application.

with a view of learning what the mischiefs were which required a remedy, and whether such remedy demanded further legal enactments for its applicacation.

A defect of the first importance, if not in the structure, at least in the working of the city government, immediately attracted the attention of your committee. They found that no efficient and sound system of accountability for the public moneys, on the part of those by whom they were expended, existed or was enforced—that no regular scrutiny of the disbursements of departments, bureaus, or subordinates was practised; and no effective supervision of expenditures, to see that they were confined to legal objects of expense to the city, was even attempted.

Another essential error in the administration of the city government, your committee discovered in the entire confusion between legislative and executive duties, which had been introduced in practice by the two boards of the Common Council, their committees and members. The entire discrimination between these two functions which the amendments to the charter in 1849, were designed to effect, in practice, has utterly failed of accomplishment.

But the worst feature of the city government, as now constituted, seemed to your committee to be the complete supremacy of the Common Council, and the entire absence of any office or department independent of its influence or able to withstand it. The veto of the Mayor interposed no obstacle to the designs of a persistent majority of the two boards; the limits which the law should impose upon their acts as restricted to the special purposes of the incorporation, became nugatory, as the two boards of the Common Council judged of the extent and scope of those purposes, and without appeal, unless judicial restraint was interposed at the suit of individual complaints; and the arrangement of the power of impeachment for malpractices in office, and of the tribunal for the trial of impeachments, removed all fear to the members of the Common Council from this quarter, as it la

government.
Under the impression of these views, of the evils

Under the impression of these views, of the evils to be corrected, your committee have prepared several measures, from which they think a beneficial result may be anticipated, and which they respectfully submit for your approval.

In the first place, they recommend an amendment to the city charter, separating the charter from the general election, and restoring it to the month of April. By this change, your committee suppose the attention of the honest and disinterested portion of the community can be directed to the personal qualifications, whether of capacity or integrity, of the candidates for charter offices, without any embarnasment from the general politics of the State or of the Union, which, in the present arrangements of the elections, absorb all local considerations. Besides, the absence from the city during the summer and early fall, (the period when all the preparations for the November elections are completing.) of a great number of citizens most interested in the city affairs, renders the restoration of the charter elections to the spring for this reason, highly desirable. Your committee have accordingly framed a law to accomplish this object.

The second measure which your committee have

committee have accordingly plish this object.

The second measure which your committee have the second measure in the provisions of the pr The second measure which your committee have thought advisable, is a change in the provisions of the annual tax law of the Legislature, with the intent to limit the expenditure of the city government to the objects therein named and the amounts therein authorized, and to preclude the Common Council or the executive departments from making expenditures or contracting debts in the excess of the amounts thus authorized. Your committee have prepared a law to this effect, and its adoption by the Legislature will set a limit to the treasures at the disposal of the city government, not easily to be overpassed.

The third measure which your committee have matured, and now present for your consideration, is an

The third measure which your committee have matured, and now present for your consideration, is an amendment of the city charter, organizing a Board of Finance, with such power as may constitute it an efficient check, both to keep the legislation of the Common Council within its legitimate sphere, and the action of the executive departments under strict supervision and complete control. The amendment to the charter proposed to accomplish this object is herewith submitted to you; but a brief explanation of the principles upon which this Board of Finance has been framed, and of the main features of its construction, seems not inappropriate.

The great requisites to the vigor and successful operation of such a Board of Finance, it will generally be conceded, are, first, independence of, and security against encroachments from, the Common Council, and the departments whose proceedings and action it is designed to hold in check. Second, strength, both in its hold upon the public condidence, and from its own inherent powers practically to effect whatever the law of its constitution permits it to undertake. Third, permanence, both in the longer tenure of office, and from the sources of its appointment being in some sort distinct from those of the other branches of the city government. Fourth, purity, by being removed from the corrupting influence which the patronage of office and the distribution of

ment being in some sort distinct from those of the other branches of the city government. Fourth, purity, by being removed from the corrupting influence which the patronage of office and the distribution of money exert on their possessors, and protected by the absence of those attributes of power, alike from the envy of aspirants for place and the distrust of the citizens at large.

In framing the law establishing this Board of Finance, your committee have endeavored to meet all these requisitions, so far at least as was deemed compatible with the general spirit of our institutions.

The first ten sections of the act, as proposed; are occupied with the organization of the board, and sections 29, 30, 32, 33, and 34, provide for the filling of vacancies which may occur in it, for the submission of the act to the people before it shall become a law, and for the first election of members of the board, three are elected by the people, three appointed by the Governor, and three by the Mayor, that they are divided into three classes, going out of office at intervals of two years; and that they have power to provide for the expense of discharging their duties, but receive no pay or emolument.

Sections 11 and 18, both inclusive, contain the general powers of the board in supervising and auditing the accounts of all departments and officers of the

Sections 11 and 18, both inclusive, contain the general powers of the board in supervising and auditing the accounts of all departments and officers of the city government, and confer upon them all power to limit the expenditures, prohibit any large expenditures, and prevent any demand from accruing against the city beyond the fixed limits, and give authority to the board to institute and control suits for the recovery of money illegally paid from the treasury, and to enforce the collection of all balances of accounts which may be stated against city officers by said board.

which may be stated against city officers by said board.

Sections 19, 20, and 21, relate to the impeaching power, and the trial of impeachments, giving to the Board of Finance the sole power of impeachment of members of the Common Council, and city and all officers, excepting the members of said Board of Finance, and subjecting them to impeachment by the Common Council, and establishing an independant court for the trial of all these impeachments, composed of the judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts and of the Common Pleas.

Sections 22 to 26, both inclusive, contain important restrictions on the sale of the property of the city, and the making of contracts and incurring of debt in its behalf, both to prevent money from being paid out of the treasury, or property of the city deing conveyed contrary to law, and to recover them back by suit, in cases where the wrong has been done.

back by sine, in cases that no act of the Common Section 27 provides that no act of the Common Council, vetoed by the Mayor, shall go into effect, if it concern the finance of the city, until it shall re-

ceive the assent of the Board of Finance. Section 28 gives the Board of Finance power, in case of urgent public necessity, such as invasion or pestilence, to authorize an extraordinary expenditure, and, if need be, the contracting of a debt. Section 31 repeals all powers lodged in the Board of Supervisors, and all provisions in the city charter and its amendments, fuconsistent with this act.

Your committee have had under consideration other subjects of reform, and propose still further to consider the same; but they deemed it important to present the results of their labors up to this point, that, should they meet the approval of the citizens, no time may be lost in securing the necessary legislative action.

Your committee have no hesitation in saying that the public mind, excited, and justly excited, by the flagrant wrongs perpetrated upon the property of the city and the common rights of the citizens, under the name of government, demands thorough and permanent reform, which shall not only correct existing evils, but prevent their recurrence. It is of the utmost importance that this public sentiment should be confirmed and concentrated; that petitions to the Legislature should be signed by the citizens in general; that a deputation of respectable men of all the professions and employments should attend upout the Legislature in person, and enforce their grievances and demand their remedy, and that the public press should faithfully and boldly uphold and advance this just cause of the people. Wisdom in the adoption of measures, neither attempting plans unsound or impossible, nor abating from any essential or efficacious demand, firmness and unanimity in insisting upon what the general sense of the honest friends of reform shall approve, though at the sacrifice of personal plans and judgment, are the two great qualities with which success is sure, without which it is impracticable.

Your committee call your attention to the forms of petition to the Legislature which they have prepared, and recommend that they

Wm. Chauncey, Simeon Buldwin.

New York, February 1, 1853.

To the Legislature of the State of New York:—

The undersigned, citizens and inhabitants of the city of New York, respectfully represent, that they are sufferers from the grievous taxation imposed upon them, to meet the enormous expenses of the city government, as now administered; that the public property of the city is exposed to waste and dilapidation; that the property of the city and common rights of the citizens are made the subjects of special and exclusive grants to individuals; that the interests of the city are neglected by its government, and its revenues expended to large amounts for illegal objects, and that the general credit and repute of the city and its citizens are tarnished by the general opinion that has obtained of the reckless and improvident, if not corrupt and profligate management of its public affairs.

Your petitioners earnestly pray for such legislative action as may correct the evils under which they sufer, and particularly, that in the "Act to enable the Supervisors of the city and county of New York to raise money by tax," to be passed at the present session of the Legislature, provision may be inserted, specially prescribing the objects of expenditure and the amounts to be raised for them respectively, and prohibiting the expenditure of any larger sum, and the incurring of any debt for such objects, so that the contributions of the tax payers, which, in fact, are mainly borne by the laboring classes, may by applied for the common benefit.

Secondly, that the charter of the city may be amended so as to separate the election of charter officers from the general election, and restore it to the month of April in each year.

Thirdly, that the charter of the city may be amended so as to establish an independent Board of Finance for the general management and control of the finances of the city.

And lastly, that such other measures in correction of the evil government under which the citizens are suffering, may be adopted as to the wisdom of the Legislature may seem meet.

The report was adopted.

Legislature may seem meet.

The report was adopted.

Judge Vanderool then said he was glad to see this assemblage of gentlemen, composed of both the great political parties of the country. They had met to co-operate in some effort to remedy the evilsour city was suffering from, the curse of over-taxation. It was to him an ample pledge that there were occasions when men could throw off the shackles of party and unite in an attempt to promote the public good. He had been a party man, and claimed to belong to the old line democracy; but he thought the time had emphatically arrived in the affairs of our city, when such a union was called for as he had the high pleasure here to witness. If the evil of increasing and yet increasing taxation was not arrested, where was the thing to end? Our valuations of property are stretched up to their utmost tension; while in other parts of the State the assessors estimates did not exceed lifty per cent of their actual value; and yet our taxes are one and a quarter per cent. When they reach two and a half per cent, as soon they would, if something were not done to dam up the torrent which threatens to overwhelm us, you will find out to your sorrow how little your real estate will be worth. Should a commercial revulsion or monied crisis come, as come they would, sooner or later, your city would soon be depopulated of moneyed men. Yes, capitalists would flee from it like affrighted sheep, to get rid of the curse of intolerable taxation. What we have done and are now doing is only the beginning of our labors. Much remains to be done. Our organization must be extended, is only the beginning of our labors. Much remains to be done. Our organization must be extended, so that its ramifications embrace every portion of our city—all its classes and interests. Petitions must be circulated, and agencies employed, to urge your subjects of reform upon the consideration of the Legislature; and should you be fortunate enough to get a favorable response from the law-making power, the struggle will not then be half finished. Your work rought be submitted to the propular sufferce and get a favorable response from the law-making power, the struggle will not then be half inished. Your work must be submitted to the popular soffrage, and then our utmost efforts would be necessary to secure the approbation of the popular vote. You must expect opposition. The interests opposed to an economical administration of our city affairs are too multiplied and strong to surrender without a conflict. You will have to strive to array the masses on your side; to convince them, if possible, that they—poor and humble though they may be—pay ininitely more than their fair portion of overtaxation. I fear there is a heresy too prevalent among us, that the burthen of our city government falls chiefly on the rich or the property holders. It is not so. It required no great advance in the science of political economy, no Adam Smith to convince any thoughtful mind, that fair share of taxation. Capital is powerful, and always triumphs in a contest with labor in regard tupublic burthens. Our frightful amount of taxation; our four or five millions per year, enters into everything the poor man consumes, into every loaf of bread he eats, into every dollar of rent he payfor his humble dwelling. Are your taxes increased? the real estate owner relieves himself by adding this rent; and it has already come to this, and we hear the complaint daily, that a poor man can hardly afford to get a house and humble home in this tax-ridden city. This view, so just, so saffectident when fairly stated, must be enforced upon the popular mind. The notion that the evits and inconveniences of public extravagance fail mainly on the rich—a notion so false and deceptive—must be dispelled from the popular mind. Once convince the masses what is the principal cause of high rent and dear bread, and your city authorities would—so be admonished that an economical use of the paking purse was the only guarantee of popular favorantee of popular purse. and your city authorities would so be admonished that an economical use of the public purse was the only guarantee of popular favor and public promotion. He hoped the time had a length come when good men of all parties were ready to backle on their armor, and go forth in the present work of city reform. The men in easy circult senses at length comed willing to leave, for a while, their pleasant parlor and their evening firesides, and bestir thear, elves for the public weal. He was glad at last to ee this shaking among bones hitherto so dry and dead as to public matters. It was a good augury, and if the zeal of the class of gentlemen here assembled should keep pace with the demands of the times, much good could not fail to come out of their efforts. The meeting was then addressed by William M. Everts, Hiram Ketchum, and Benjamin F. Butler, Esquires, and was composed about equally of whigh and democrats. and your city authorities would some that an economical use of the public

PRISONER ESCAPED.—A man by the name of Carmelich, a Spaniard, who was tried and found guilty of murder at the last term of the Circuit Court of Jackson county, and sentenced by Judge Watts to be hung on the last Friday of December, escaped from the custody of the Sheriff on the day on which he was to have been hung, and is now at large. The particulars of his escape, as we learn them from a friend, are as follows:—The prisoner, from the time of his removal from Green county jail, pretended to be sick and very lame, and was believed to be entirely unable to move without assistance, and in this condition was left on the gallery of Mr. Samuel Davis; but when the Sheriff and his deputies returned to perform the last sad and solemn requisitions of the law. lo and behold the bird had flown, and Carmelich was nowhere to be found. The Sheriff, at last accounts, was in close pursuit, and we hope he will succeed in re-capturing the prisoner.—Paulding (Miss.) Clarion.

GREAT AGE .- There is a man in Bloomfield Great Age.—There is a man in Bloomfield, Ontario county, who, in April next, will, if he lives until that time, have seen his 112th birthday. His name is James Knight, and he was born in Queens county, Ireland, in April, 1741. Within the last eight or nine months a marked change had taken place in his intellectual capacity; but aside from this, he was apparently much the same as for many years past. He resides with his son, who is seventy two years old.